DeTao Talks Programme - Shanghai Library
What Future for Online Learning?

Sir John Daniel
Education Master
What Future for Online Learning?
The Internet: Not only shopping!
1. Online Learning:
   - Tradition and History
   - What does the research say?
PLAN

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2. Recent developments (e.g. MOOCs)
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3. What future? No classrooms?
PLAN

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Open and Distance Education

= 

Open Education
  (remove barriers)

+ 

Distance Education
  (across space and time)
Open and Distance Education

= 

Open Education
(remove barriers)

+ 

Distance Education
(across space and time)
Confucius: Pioneer of Open Education
Potest et una vox capi ame plurima: Лишь бы ты умела написать тысячи страниц.
Postal systems
TV
The Internet
Brazil → California
QUESTIONS

◆ Does distance education work?

◆ Do students like it?
‘…compared distance education with classroom instruction for a variety of learners by examining 232 studies published from 1985 to 2001.

‘Asynchronous distance education had a small but significant positive effect on student achievement.’

_ Bernard et al. (2004)_
...articles published between 1996 and 2008 that focused on web-based courses where more than 25% of the instruction - but not all - was delivered online.

Students in online learning conditions performed modestly better than those receiving face-to-face instruction.

(Means et al., 2013)
‘a major reason for using blended learning approaches is to increase the amount of time that students spend engaging with the instructional materials.’
Research in Hong Kong

• Online not popular with students
• Lack of self-discipline & self motivation
• Teacher-centred & utilitarian learning culture
• Teachers want to instruct with least effort
Research in Canada

• High achieving students like online
• Prefer blended courses and learn better
• Older students & women like online more than younger students and men
• After one online course they take another
SUMMARY

- Rote learning not a good environment to introduce online learning
- Students work harder in blended and online courses and engage more fully
PLAN

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2. Recent developments (e.g. MOOCs)
What is a MOOC?
Massive Open Online Course
MOOCs began in Canada

University of Manitoba

Connectivism & Connective Knowledge

25 students on campus
2,300 public - free
2012
Elite US universities offer MOOCs
Course x6002 Circuits and Electronics

155,000 registrations
23,000 tried first test
9,000 passed mid-term
7157 passed = < 5%
Online Learning
What is higher education?
If Harvard is going online it must be OK!
The herd instinct to MOOC!
3,850 MOOCs are now available!
M O O C – the meaning of every letter is negotiable!
Understanding IELTS: Techniques for English Language Tests

Improve your English and prepare for tests, such as IELTS reading, writing, speaking and listening, with this free online course.

~ 400,000 learners
What is a MOOC?
Massive Open Online Course

Weaknesses:

➢ No credits or credentials
My MOOCs

- The Mind is Flat (Warwick University)
- Talk the Talk (Open University)
- Start Writing Fiction (Open University)
- Challenging Wealth and Income Inequality (Open University)
- Childhood in the Digital Age (Open University)
- What is a Mind? (University of Cape Town)
- Empire: The Controversies of British Imperialism (Exeter University)
- Logical and Critical Thinking (University of Auckland)
What is a MOOC?
Massive Open Online Course

Weaknesses:

- No credits
- No clear business model
The Answer

CREDITS

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Operating at scale
Convergence

MOOCs

Regular online courses
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MOOC on MOOC
Massive Open Online Courses for Development
MOOC for Capacity Building in Indian Agriculture: Opportunities and Challenges

20 courses planned with proctored exams in 100 centres for a $20 fee
Online Enrollment as a Percent of Total Enrollment: Fall 2002 - Fall 2011

From Inside Higher Ed - USA
% of US universities offering a programme(s) that can be studied entirely online

- 2002: 32%
- 2012: 62%
Enrolment growth in US universities

- Online courses
- Classroom courses
University Leaders

70% say online learning is an important strategy for their institution.

Academic staff (Faculty)

“only 28% accept the value and legitimacy of online teaching”
Online Learning – a mixed picture

- Students like online learning
- Research shows it is better
- Online learning is expanding
- MOOCs have given online publicity
- Academic staff doubt its value
Students

“like online learning and perform better”

PARADOX

Academic staff (Faculty)

“only 28% accept the value and legitimacy of online teaching”
Moore’s Technology Adoption Cycle

- **The Early Market**
  - Technology Enthusiasts
  - Visionaries

- **The Chasm**

- **The Mainstream Market**
  - Pragmatists
  - Conservatives
  - Skeptics

- **Students**

- **Professors**
Moore’s Technology Adoption Cycle

- Students
- Professors
- Online learning
How will online learning develop in China?
Is preparing to offer online courses to universities in China and abroad
Professor Yan Jin

*Design Theory and Methodology*
O2O
Online to Onsite
DeTao Online Course
offered in selected Chinese universities
Receiving universities adapt the DeTao O+O courses to their own teaching needs.
University teachers must learn how to teach online.
Moore's Technology Adoption Cycle

Students

Professors

Online learning

Moore's Technology Adoption Cycle
THANK YOU
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